

(Claims)

1. (currently amended) A bottle-cap comprising: a housing having an upper section and a lower section, said lower section having attachment means for attaching said lower section onto an externally threaded bottleneck of a beverage container, said upper section and said lower section being attachable together, [[and]] said upper section and said lower section in combination providing a protective outer covering for an internal hollow concealed storage compartment located within said housing. said attachment means including said lower section having a base portion which forms a first downwardly facing internally threaded receptacle, said downwardly facing internally threaded receptacle having a mating relationship with said externally threaded bottleneck of said beverage container when threadably interconnected together, said base portion having an upwardly facing hollow neck member which forms said internal hollow concealed storage compartment therein, said upwardly facing hollow neck member having external threads and said upper section forms a second downwardly facing internally threaded receptacle that is of a shape and size to threadably receive and mate with said upwardly facing hollow neck member therein when threadably interconnected together.
2. (not entered)

3. (currently amended) ~~The bottle-cap of claim 1 wherein said upper section and said lower section being attachable together includes said~~ A bottle-cap comprising: a housing being integrally formed resulting in [[said]] an upper section and [[said]] a lower section being fixedly attached together, said lower section of said housing forms a first downwardly facing internally threaded receptacle, said downwardly facing internally threaded receptacle having a mating relationship with [[said]] an externally threaded bottleneck of [[said]] a beverage container when threadably interconnected together, said upper section having [[said]] an internal hollow concealed storage compartment formed therein and said internal hollow concealed storage compartment including open/closure means.
4. (currently amended) The bottle-cap of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein said open/closure means is ~~in the form of~~ a removable lid member that is frictionally removably retained within a recess formed within said housing.
5. (currently amended) ~~The bottle-cap of claim 1 wherein~~ A bottle-cap comprising: a housing having an upper section and a lower section, said lower section having attachment means for attaching said lower section onto an externally threaded bottleneck of a beverage container, said upper section and said lower section being attachable together, [[and]] said upper section and said lower section in combination providing a protective outer covering for an internal hollow concealed storage compartment located within said housing, said upper section and said lower section being attachable together includes by releasable attachment means, said releasable attachment means consisting of said lower section of said housing having at least a first and a second indent, said upper section includes at

least a first and a second downwardly extending protrusion, said first indent being of a shape and size to frictionally receive said first downwardly extending protrusion therein and said second indent being of a shape and size to frictionally receive said second downwardly extending protrusion therein

6. (currently amended) The bottle-cap of claim 1 further includes an accessory adapter that can be easily used for either reducing or enlarging the size of [[said]] an internally threaded receptacle[[.]] , said accessory adapter is of a shape and size to be frictionally inserted and retained within said first downwardly facing receptacle formed within said lower section of said housing.
7. (new) A bottle-cap comprising: a housing having an lower section, said lower section having attachment means for attaching said lower section onto an externally threaded bottleneck of a beverage container, a pre-existing bottle cap, said pre-existing bottle cap and said lower section being attachable together, [[and]] said pre-existing bottle cap and said lower section in combination providing a protective outer covering for an internal hollow concealed storage compartment located within said housing.

In view of the above, if the Examiner agrees but does not feel that the present claims are technically adequate and/or if the Examiner (knowing that the applicant is not a skilled Attorney but is applying as a private citizen) can see areas which applicant has failed to point out and distinctly claim but would lead to patentable material, then I respectfully request the Examiner to point out said

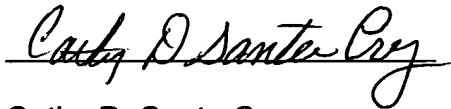
material and to write acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j) and give the applicant an opportunity to respond further before final action.

CONCLUSION

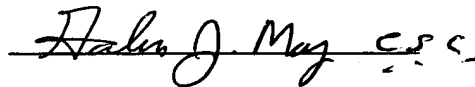
For all the reasons above, this application is now submitted to contain claims that define a novel and patentable invention. Hence allowance of the application is respectfully submitted to be proper and is respectfully solicited.

We thank the Examiner for their time and look forward to the next reply.

Very respectfully,



Cathy D. Santa Cruz



Galen J. May